

# Vigilant Hunters!



LTC Steve Koenig

1st Quarter, FY06

October 5, 2005

## Special points of interest:

- C Company Changes Command at 1100 on October 6.
- Have a financial plan!
- All Command Teams are working hard to give soldiers predictability.
- There are many upcoming family activities.
- The new Chaplain is on board.

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## Commander's Notes

Greetings to all family members, soldiers, contractors and volunteers of the 204<sup>th</sup> MI BN. Thanks for the wonderful Change of Command, reception, the initial orientations and briefings to get me settled in. I'm proud to be a part of the most unique and capable airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance unit in the US Army. No other unit is capable of doing the job we do, as consistently or at the level of professionalism we sustain.

**"Having a sense of belonging as well as support nearby can be a great comfort when we are deployed."**

I find hard to believe that I have been in command for 90 days—the time just flies! In that time we've redeployed for a short breather, conducted a very successful Organization Day, attempted to provide some predictability with an established deployment schedule (even if the original dates slipped into the holidays) and commenced our next deployment. Additionally, we've attempted to revive the Battalion Family Readiness Group (FRG). We hope to improve the information flow, provide an oppor-

tunity for increased participation of all members of the battalion as well as foster and encourage a feeling of esprit throughout the organization.

As I am a geographic bachelor I have to rely on volunteers to support the FRG and I'd like to thank Scarlet Watters for becoming my representative to head the FRG at the Battalion. My only guidance to her is that the FRG be open to everyone and I have encouraged her to work with the Company FRG leaders on all upcoming events and activities.

We were also able to hold our first FRG meeting prior to our deployment, but we are still in our infancy in this endeavor. I encourage all to participate and help us grow! Having a sense of belonging as well as support nearby can be a great comfort when we are deployed. FRG can also be a great resource for those new to the Army Family. Our next meeting will be

posted to the FRG web page as well as a calendar of upcoming events.

<http://204mibn.army.mil/FRG.htm>

Speaking of upcoming events, we're looking forward to the annual Fall Festival Fright House at the Battalion Motor Pool, Holiday Party, a winter event and several Hail and Farewells. As the FRG and I both mature, I hope we will be able to provide the mutual support, assistance and communications that will sustain us through each and every deployment and all the other challenges we will face together. Lastly, as busy as the organization is, I hope that when we're at home and the opportunity presents itself, you will grab what quality of life you can.

**VIGILANT HUNTERS!**

— LTC STEVEN T. KOENIG



## Command Sergeant Major



Organization Day 2005

*"If you have a dilemma  
in performing your  
duties you can fall back  
on the NCO creed or  
Army values to guide  
you in your decision."*



Organization Day 2005

First off, I would like to thank SGM Sanchez for making my transition into the 204th MI BN (AR) a smooth and seamless one. My first impression of our great Soldiers in the unit was with SGT Williams from HSC. I stopped her in the motor pool and asked her if she knew the NCO Creed, and to my surprise, she did. I think if you aspire to be an NCO you need to memorize the NCO creed. I challenge all NCOs to memorize the creed. If you have a dilemma in performing your duties you can fall back on the NCO creed or Army values to guide you in your decision.

Next, I would like to congratulate all Soldiers and NCOs who have been promoted in the last two months. I have not had a single Soldier fail a promotion board. That speaks to the quality of Soldiers we have in our unit. In my last unit, two Soldiers failed the board a month. Continue to study hard because "knowledge is power."

During my in-brief with the Soldiers, I challenged all leaders to start up a savings plan. It's real easy to say we don't make

enough money until you sit down and hash out a budget plan. I started saving money as a young soldier, thanks to the advice of a civilian, not a Soldier. Since then, I have continued to bang the Savings drum. I read four or five books before I dove into investing and it made me that much more knowledgeable. Start investing now for your future and remain diligent.

As I am typing this, I am currently downrange visiting our soldiers while we are conducting a very viable mission in support of the Global war on Terrorism. Our Soldiers that I came across are performing their duties to standard and making a difference. The Soldiers have their needs taken care of and of course we are constantly trying to improve their quality of life downrange.

In my short time that I have been in the unit I have been impressed with the professionalism and technical expertise of the soldiers. The Battalion prayer breakfast was the best I have seen in my military career. Our unit ministry team put together a first class breakfast that

featured the inspirational tunes of SGT Danner, SPC Hernandez and PV2 Lira. During that same week the Battalion pulled together and accomplished a first rate Organization Day. I know that everyone worked hard during the event but I want to especially thank C Co. for picking up and cooking all of the food. Even though D Co. had an early lead for the Organizational Day Trophy, HSC finished strong and won for the sixth straight time.

When I was first given this assignment, I said "oh no, I have to remain in El Paso". Like anything it's what you make of the situation. You're always told that your best units are the ones you just left and the one that you are going to. It's easy to point out problems, don't just identify the problems, fix them. I challenge each of you to make this unit your best.

— CSM Christopher Kalili



## C Company "Grizzly Hunters"



C Company FRG raises money at the "Lawn Chair and a Movie" event on main post by selling pizza and drinks.

We, the members of Charlie Company 204th MI BN (AR), want to extend a warm and hearty welcome to our newest Grizzlies. SSG Davis comes to us from Ft. Hood TX. SSG Budnicki, with his wife Netha, and CW4 Jewell, with

wife Marcela and daughter Hailey, come from our sister companies of Delta and HSC respectively. . . WELCOME ABOARD!!

Charlie Company is trying to build the Family Readiness Group (FRG). As a result, there was a meeting that took place and the determination was that

a fund-raiser was the way to get soldiers actively involved with the FRG and begin to see it as fun instead of a burden. We participated in the "Lawn Chair and a Movie" event on main post and sold Pizza and Drinks. event.

Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end. Because



## C Company “Grizzly Hunters” continued

of this, we are losing some outstanding service-members. CW3 Tony Johnson, and CW3 Steven Hathaway, are due to PCS over the next few months. Recently CW4 Herb Navarro and CW3 Michael Weatherholtz have given the last salute to the flag by retiring. These two great Americans will be sorely missed, not only in our company and Battalion, but in the Army as a whole. Gentlemen, job well done. We wish all of you the best in the future in whatever you decide to do. We know you'll be successful wherever you go. . .God bless!

We are about to experience our greatest loss and gain at the same time. We will conduct a Change of Command Ceremony in Oct. This will be bitter sweet as we lose a great commander in CPT Michael Boussetot and gain a great commander in CPT Maurice Wilson. Here is the last transmission from our current Pilot in Command ‘PC’.

### FROM THE COMMANDER'S COCKPIT

*I want to be the first to welcome CPT Maurice Wilson and his wife Yvette to the C Company Family. It has truly been a privilege to serve as your Commander. The dedication and work ethic of our Soldiers each day, is what has made C Company so successful. Thank you for your all of your efforts.*

— CPT Mike Boussetot

C Company recently had the privilege to reenlist a high-speed Grizzly, SPC Gale. He's been in the unit almost five months and couldn't wait for the chance to extend his time in the Army. . .Way to go Grizzlies! In his own words, “I wouldn't reenlist if I didn't love what I do.” I couldn't have said it better myself.

— 1LT Steve Davis



2004 C Company  
Change of Command



SPC Gale Reenlists



C-12 Flight over Curacao

## D Company “Crazy Hawks”

Once again, it is a privilege to address the Soldiers and spouses of Delta Company. First of all, I want to thank the Soldiers and spouses for making the first three months in command so rewarding. Second, I want to thank everyone involved in the Family Support Group (FRG). We are getting started strong and FRG is providing the much needed support required for the company's OPTEMPO. The current deployment

started off successfully. The STRATAIR and aircraft deployments were executed flawlessly. Unexpected, addition personnel movements were made and I know how tough this is on families. In the future, I am going to continue to try to give as much predictability to soldiers as possible. I am currently in Columbia and want the family members to know the outstanding job the Soldiers are doing. With the current de-



Crazy Hawks Downrange

## D Company "Crazy Hawks" continued



RC-7/EO-5B In flight



Flying Over Colombia

ployment we can't forget the other Soldiers we have located throughout the states.

### **Schools:**

CW4 Evans, CW3 Maxfield, and CW3 Frazier are located at Fort Rucker, AL. CW4 Evans and CW3 Maxfield are attending the Fixed Wing Instructor Pilot Course. CW3 Frazier is in the Warrant Officer Advance Course. SSG Blackburn is on her way to BNCOC at Fort Lee, VA. We want to wish them all Good Luck!

### **Marriages:**

We have had several marriages

in the last month. SGT Eddy, SGT Couto, and SPC Kim have all tied the knot in September. Congratulations and Good Luck!

### **Babies:**

SGT Lamenza's significant other is expecting twins in the beginning of October. My wife April is expecting in the beginning of November. Charlie Company's SSG Budnicki lifelong Crazy hawk-member and wife, Netha, is expecting in February.

### **Future Operations:**

We are currently scheduled to take a reset period a couple

times a year. These times will be published verbally.

I want to thank everyone for their continued support which makes this company so great to be a part of!

— CPT Andy Gentry



CPT  
Dave  
Smartt

## A Message from the HSC Commander

**G**REETINGS: As many of you are aware, HSC has undergone many new changes over the past few months as I, CPT David W. Smartt, have taken over as the new Company Commander. I look forward to working with 1SG Fields and carrying on HSC traditions, making new ones and working with HSC Soldiers and family members. I would like to thank Mrs. Cogan and Mrs. Sanders for volunteering to be HSC FRG leaders. Your dedication to the HSC FRG program has

**"As the Holiday Season quickly approaches I ask each Samurai to be safe and take care of each other. "**

been greatly appreciated. As the Holiday Season quickly approaches I ask each Samurai to be safe and take care of each other. The upcoming months will prove challenging as the

Army begins to move Soldiers according to the most recent approved BRAC. This is an exciting time for Biggs as we grow to meet the needs of our changing Army. I welcome your suggestions for ways we can improve as a company and thus better accommodate this growth. Together, we can have a successful company that generates competent, successful Soldiers ready and willing to make a difference.

— CPT Dave Smartt



1SG Fields Leads an  
HSC Formation

## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

C Co Change of Command - 6 Oct

HSC FRG meeting - 20 Oct

HSC 100% APFT - 20 Oct

BN Fall Festival - 27 Oct

Daylight Savings - 30 Oct

BN M9 range - 7 Nov

BN M16 range - 9 Nov

Veteran's Day Holiday 11- 14 Nov

BN FRG Meeting - 16 Nov



BN Thanksgiving Potluck - 18 Nov

Thanksgiving Holiday weekend 24 - 27 Nov

Holiday schedule 19 Dec - 2 Jan

Children's Holiday party - 21 Dec

Christmas Four-Day Weekend 23 - 26 Dec

New Year's Four-Day Weekend 30 Dec - 2 Jan



**Holiday Beach Hotel in Curacao**

## HSC Hails and Farewells

HSC would like to welcome the following soldiers and their families to 204th MI BN and El Paso, Texas:

MAJ Erich Then; Spouse: Kelli; Son: Erich II; Daughter: Abby

CPT Lawrence Bengal; Spouse: Wendy

CPT Anthony Marchand; Spouse: Dana

CPT Michael Zell; Spouse: Amy; Sons: Caleb, Mitchell & Samuel

CSM Christopher Kalili; Spouse Kristina; Daughters: Ashley, Stephanie & Emily; Sons: Christopher & David

SSG Jason Cogan; Spouse: Danielle; Daughters: Ashley & Erica; Sons: Jo-

seph & Kelly

SSG Amanda Dunham; Spouse: Alton; Daughter: Cailyn

SGT Kevin Ningester; Spouse: Cynthia; Sons: Layken & Brayden; Daughter: Makenna

SGT Adrian Connor

SGT Thomas Wilson

SPC Ross Bel-liveau

PV2 Orlando Santiago



HSC bids the following soldiers best of wishes:

Chaplain (CPT) Macupa SGT Sommers

CPT Smith CPL Weitzel

SGM Sanchez SPC Ballard

SFC Beck SPC Calex

SFC Greene

SSG Wideman

SGT Lightsey

SGT Palomino



## Congratulations!!!

### Promotions:

MAJ Then

CPT Smith

1LT Langford

SPC Heavyrunner

SPC Marroquin

### US Citizenships:

SPC Marroquin

PFC Beltanova



### Marriages:

SGT Weber

PFC Hernandez

SPC Foote



# Chaplain's Corner

## Getting to Know You:



CH (CPT) Zell

About this time every year the Army completes its summer moves, and we all begin to settle into the new routine with new faces. The 204<sup>th</sup> is no exception, and in the past few months we have seen many new Soldiers and civilians in all levels of leadership and service. I am one of those 'new folks' myself, and it is only proper that I let you know a little bit about who I am and the way I operate.

**Who is he?** I am fully credentialed Full Gospel Chaplain which means I come from a Christian background that emphasizes the truth of the Bible in all aspects. If the Bible says it happened, then I believe it happened and it can happen again. I believe there is tremendous power in prayer, and that the Spirit of God has a deep desire for relationship with all of humanity. I also believe that your membership in the 204<sup>th</sup>, whether civilian, family member or Soldier, is no accident. God has a purpose and plan for each of our lives, and it is my desire to help you find that purpose.

**What does he do?** In that past few months I have spent most of my time getting to know the Battalion and providing counsel for Soldiers. Although I have very strong religious convictions, I make sure that I provide full respect for every individual who comes into my office. The Army is a highly diverse organization, and I appreciate the differences we all bring to the table. I am committed to serve every Soldier or family member who drops by to the best of my ability.

**What's in it for me?** Over the next two years I will be working hard to increase the level of religious support that we provide in the Battalion. This will include Bible studies, prayer breakfasts and other similar functions. I will continue to remain available for individual as well as family and marriage counseling. I am more than willing to perform a wedding free of charge so long as the couple meets with me for pre-marital counseling. I count it a privilege to minister to you and your family while you call Ft Bliss home.

If you would like to stop in some time my office is located in Battalion Headquarters next to the flight surgeon. Please feel free to drop in whenever you get a chance.

I look forward to serving with and for you.

CH (CPT) Michael Zell  
569-6090

## 204th Military Intelligence Battalion

11176 SSG Sims St.  
Ft. Bliss, TX 79918

For comments about this newsletter  
please contact MAJ Mary Bell at:  
Phone: 915-567-6067  
E-mail: [mary.bell@us.army.mil](mailto:mary.bell@us.army.mil)

Visit the 204th on the web at:  
[http://204mibn.army.mil/204MI  
BN.htm](http://204mibn.army.mil/204MI BN.htm)

## *Vigilant Hunters!*



Battalion Prayer  
Breakfast on August  
24th with CH (LTC)  
Jackson speaking

